Distr.
GENERAL

A/CONF.157/20
24 June 1993

Original: CHINESE AND
ENGLISH

WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Vienna, 14-25 June 1993
Agenda items 9, 10, 11 and 12

GENERAL DEBATE ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS SINCE THE ADOPTION OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ON THE IDENTIFICATION OF OBSTACLES TO FURTHER PROGRESS IN THIS AREA AND WAYS IN WHICH THEY CAN BE OVERCOME

CONSIDERATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DEVELOPMENT, DEMOCRACY AND THE UNIVERSAL ENJOYMENT OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS, KEEPING IN VIEW THE INTERRELATIONSHIP AND INDIVISIBILITY OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, CULTURAL, CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

CONSIDERATION OF CONTEMPORARY TRENDS IN AND NEW CHALLENGES TO THE FULL REALIZATION OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND MEN, INCLUDING THOSE OF PERSONS BELONGING TO VULNERABLE GROUPS

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR: (a) STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CONFORMITY WITH THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND WITH INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS; (b) ENSURING THE UNIVERSALITY, OBJECTIVITY AND NON-SELECTIVITY OF THE CONSIDERATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES; (c) ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITIES AND MECHANISMS; (d) SECURING THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Letter dated 24 June 1993 from the Deputy Chairman of the Delegation of China, addressed to the President of the World Conference on Human Rights

The Chinese delegation has noted a letter by the Austrian delegation to the World Conference on Human Rights, which you have, at the request of the said delegation, circulated as a document of the Conference (A/CONF.157/11) on 22 June 1993. The letter mentions that the Austrian Government had invited the Dalai Lama to come to Vienna on the occasion of the opening of the World Conference on Human Rights. In this connection, the Chinese delegation would wish to make the following statement.

The World Conference on Human Rights is the second one of this scope on human rights since the establishment of the United Nations. People have placed great hopes on it, expecting that the Conference could further promote the activities in the field of human rights. The objective of the Conference is to strengthen international cooperation for the achievement of all human rights. The Dalai Lama is not only a religious figure, but also a political exile who has been engaged in attempts to split China for years. What he has been doing is aimed at the dismembering of a Member State of the United Nations. What he is trying to restore is the long discarded serfdom practised in Tibet in the past. His activities run counter to the purposes of the World Conference. The Austrian Government should not have invited the Dalai Lama to participate in any official activities. It should not, particularly, in violation of the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and in disregard of the opposition and admonition of China and the United Nations, have allowed him to participate in activities relating to the World Conference on Human Rights.

As the World Conference is approaching its end, the Austrian side has once again raised the issue of the Dalai Lama. The Chinese delegation cannot but express its strong discontent at this action.

The Chinese delegation requests that this letter be circulated as an official document of the World Conference on Human Rights, under agenda items 9, 10, 11 and 12.

(Signed) Jin Yongjian
Deputy Chairman
Delegation of China